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## **Guardian**

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## **SHOSHONE-BANNOCK TRIBES - IDAHO GUARD ENTER INTO HISTORIC AGREEMENT**

By Idaho National Guard Public Affairs

(FORT HALL) -- In a historic stroke of the pen, leaders from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the Idaho Military Division met Monday to sign a memorandum of understanding between the two entities.

This MOU, signifying a commitment by both parties, is historically significant because for the first time, the Air National Guard and the Army National Guard signed a federally recognized joint government-to-government tribal consultation protocol with a Native American tribe.

The memorandum is designed to further both parties' consultation efforts on IDNG activities involving Idaho lands to which the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes are tied geographically, culturally or historically. This agreement will advise both parties on best practices of wise stewardship of cultural and natural resources of those lands controlled, managed or utilized by the IDNG.



In the past, these types of agreement documents included only one branch of the military. Monday marked the first time multiple components entered into such an agreement. "Today, not only were we able to combine our efforts into a single tribal consultation process, but we were able to formally cement our growing relationship with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes," said Maj. Gen. Gary L. Saylor, commanding general of the Idaho National Guard, after personally signing the document.

The MOU officially establishes a government-to-government relationship between the Idaho National Guard, on behalf of the

National Guard Bureau, and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes.

"This memorandum of understanding builds upon the good working relationship that has existed between the IDNG and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes for many years," Saylor said.

To further highlight this historic event, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Leadership requested Saylor to speak the following day at the Idaho Council on Indian Affairs about the significance of the MOU, and to highlight the importance of building relationships with tribal nations.